

Reading Karma in the Jatakas

Lesson purpose: Demonstrate how buddhist ideals are conveyed to the masses.

Focus: *Karma* and *samsara* in buddhist stories ([Jatakas](#))

Method: By way of reading one, *Four on a Log*. And reflecting on the characters course of development in the story.

Complete the chart below

Character	Characteristics (3)

Questions for consideration.

1. Who are the good and bad characters, and how are they identified?
2. Does the status (as a good or bad character) of any of the characters change over the course of the story?
3. What precipitates those changes?
4. Whose position improved over the course of the story, and why?
5. Whose position was lowered over the course of the story, and why?
6. What lessons is the story meant to impart?